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Attached is a translation of a copy of a 6 December 1949 report on a VVB(Z) GUS labor conference in Leipzig, which was attended by the representatives of the most important forges. \*

\* Comment. This report shows that the Soviet Zone capacity for forgings is 10,000 tons below the 78,500 ton-production mark demanded by the 1950 Economic Plan. The problem of inadequate supplies can obviously only be solved by purchases in Western Germany. At present, the machinery of the Soviet Zone forges is in such condition - as is stated in the attached report - that considerable breakdowns of machines continuously occur. The machine interchange program alone will probably not be sufficient to overcome the production deficit.

1 Annex: Translation of a copy of a report on the labor conference of the VVB(Z) GUS in Leipzig.

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